

Comment on the proposed fixation of *Lycosa alacris* C.L. Koch, 1833 as the type species of *Pardosa* C.L. Koch, 1847 (Arachnida, Araneae) to conserve the usage of *Pardosa* and of *Alopecosa* Simon, 1885
(Case 3174; see BZN 59: 7–11)

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We write in support of Kronestedt, Dondale & Zyuzin's proposal which is nomenclaturally sound, and aims to maintain usage of the generic names *Pardosa* C.L. Koch, 1847 and *Alopecosa* Simon, 1885 in their present and universally accepted meaning. The replacement of *Alopecosa* by *Pardosa*, and the concomitant establishment of a substitute name for *Pardosa*, as currently used, would not only seriously disturb the nomenclature of the family LYCOSIDAE but would not be acceptable for the wider community of zoologists, ecologists and biogeographers.

We would like to point out that the species of the two genera concerned represent over 60% of the species of the LYCOSIDAE in Central Europe, and that they form one of the most important components of the epigeic arthropod fauna in the Palearctic region (and for *Pardosa*, in the Nearctic and Oriental regions as well). The ecology of lycosids (jointly with the beetle family CARABIDAE) has been the subject of numerous ecological and similar studies based mainly on widely used methods of pitfall trapping. Many species of *Pardosa* and *Alopecosa* are used as bioindicators. Any drastic change of the current nomenclatural usage in favour of the Principle of Priority would cause confusion and bring the Code into disrepute.

Comment on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Scarabaeus punctatus* Villers, 1789 (currently *Pentodon bideus punctatus*; Insecta, Coleoptera)
(Case 3201; see BZN 59: 27–29)

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In his application, Dr Krell makes a cogent argument for conserving the junior primary homonym of *Scarabaeus punctatus* Villers, 1789 because it and its senior homonym (a ruteline scarab) have both been in constant use, without confusion, for two centuries. I support the application to conserve the junior homonym.